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SELA MEETING PREPARES JOINT GATT POSITION

PY310050 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1925 GMT 29 May 86

[By Jorge Figueroa]

[Text] Montevideo, 29 May (EFE) -- After alluding to a possible "joint position" before the next GATT meeting, SELA Permanent Secretary Sebastian Alegrett has said that nearly half of Latin America's exports to developed countries are subject to some kind of restriction. Alegrett stated as they look forward to the upcoming GATT meeting, the Latin American and Caribbean countries are in "good spirits" and have "points of agreement."

After inaugurating the SELA meeting in Montevideo today, the Venezuelan economist told EFE that "we would like to have a united position" to present the industrialized countries at the GATT meeting to be held next September in Punta del Este, Uruguay. The meeting is being attended by "high-level" delegations from 25 Latin American and Caribbean countries.

A SELA spokesman told EFE that the industrialized countries, headed by the United States, Japan, and the FRG, want to introduce under GATT rules the so-called new subjects, which include services, investments, trade of high-technology goods, and intellectual property. The developing countries, however, "do not share this view," and so they "need to work out a joint position in order to make themselves heard by the powerful."

In his opening speech, Alegrett affirmed that "the protectionist trend, which is moving from the governments into the congresses, is getting stronger every day, thus making the entry of our products increasingly difficult." The SELA Permanent Secretary said that "nearly half of Latin America's exports to the developed countries are subject to some kind of restriction." He then pointed out that "our raw materials and basic products are also in a serious situation, because of an average decline of 35 percent in 1985 prices below the 1980 level."

Alegrett stressed that "it is necessary to reverse the mounting protectionism by the industrialized countries and the continuing application of discriminitory and restrictive measures."

At the next GATT meeting, Alegrett said, "the system that will govern international trade relations for the rest of the century should be devised." The Latin American countries, therefore, "are under the obligation to find common denominators that are solid: They must take initiatives, define their objectives, and clearly establish their priorities."

The SELA secretary expressed confidence "in the success of the meeting," and noted that "Latin America and the Caribbean must clearly identify the common interests they must defend and promote in their struggle."

PRESIDENTIAL BOMB THREAT TERMED FALSE ALARM

PY301359 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1307 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] Cordoba, 30 May (NA) -- The presidential airplane Tango-02 carrying President Raul Alfonsin to Cordoba this morning landed at 0930 without any problems at the De la Cruz Airport despite a bomb threat by an anonymous caller.

President Raul Alfonsin deplaned amid tight security measures and immediately went to the Embalse de Rio Tercero nuclear plant located only 5 km from the airport.

A few minutes after the presidential airplane took off from the Aeroparque Metropolitan Airport, the control tower told the airplane commander that a bomb threat had been received. After the president was told about the bomb threat he decided to continue the flight.

Local Cordoba reporters said there was discrimination against them in relation to the treatment the Buenos Aires journalists received. The Cordoba reporters said they were not allowed access to the airfield at the De la Cruz Airport.

Threat Adds to 'Insecurity'

PY310116 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1508 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 May (TELAM) -- Interior Secretary Facundo Suarez Lastra has stated that the bomb threat against the presidential airplane, which an anonymous caller made this morning, is part of what we are experiencing now; it may be the work of a madman, a child, or the people who planted bombs in various places...it could be anyone.

Suarez Lastra made statements this morning to reporters assigned to Government House concerning various political issues that are occupying everyone's attention.

The interior secretary answered questions on the alarm this morning aboard the airplane carrying President Raul Alfonsin to Cordoba, where he laid the cornerstone for the future radioisotopes plant, which will be subordinate to the National Commission for Atomic Energy. Today is international atomic energy day.

Suarez Lastra said that the anonymous call alerting the airport's control tower that a bomb was aboard the airplane is part of what we are experiencing, that there are political intentions behind all these acts, and that it does not take much to cause a disturbance.

Suarez Lastra added that this has nothing to do with our nation's security level -- the bomb was not planted, it was not there...

In a country like ours, anyone can make a telephone threat.

Suarez Lastra stated this might be the work of a madman or a child, or it might even be a real threat.

Suarez Lastra recalled that bombs have been planted at Radical Civic Union offices, at a military unit, at the law office of the Justicialist Party president, so it could be anything.

In conclusion, Suarez Lastra stated a simple threat does not permit us to make a guess, but we are aware that this adds to an atmosphere of insecurity, which some people want to exacerbate, and against which, of course, we are acting.

JUDGE STATES OPINION ON TAIWAN TRAWLER CASE

PY311730 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2144 GMT 30 May 86

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 30 May (NA) -- Rio Gallegos Federal Judge Alfredo Gustavo Bustos, who is handling the case of the shipwreck [naufragio] of the Taiwan trawler Hsien Teh No 3 in Puerto Deseado, today said that the crew of the Argentine Coast Guard ship Prefecto Derbes had no responsibility whatever for the event, saying that "they at all times acted according to international rules and without breaking any legal principles."

Meanwhile, Dr. Cordoba of the Puerto Deseado hospital has reported that two of the six foreign seamen who were hospitalized there yesterday were discharged at noon today and that one of the four who is still in the hospital "is in delicate condition."

In a telephone conversation with NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, Judge Bustos also said that the autopsy made on the body of the only crewman who died in the incident showed that the heart stoppage that caused his death occurred when he jumped into the ice-cold South Atlantic waters.

When asked about the charges that could be made against the officers and crew of the Prefecto Derbes for machine-gunning the intruding trawler and presumably sinking it, Bustos said that "in no way can it even be presumed that they committed an illegal act."

The judge stressed: "They complied with all international norms without breaking any legal principles." He added that "they used nonexplosive bullets with solid lead points, which makes me doubt that the fire in the Hsien Teh No 3 could have been caused by the hits."

When asked to explain his opinion, the judge said: "Yes, in fact I cannot deny my doubts regarding the fire aboard the trawler and, as long as there is no evidence to the contrary, I say that it could have been caused on purpose."

CGT PLENUM CONFIRMS STRIKE, MOBILIZATION PLANS

PY291732 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2135 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 May (TELAM) -- The plenum of secretaries general of the CGT [General Confederation of Labor] today confirmed its plan for struggle, which includes a 24-hour general strike on 13 June, a 12-hour mobilization on a later date, and a demand for the immediate normalization of the CGT in accordance with its own statutes.

The CGT also decided to reject any government effort to regulate the right to strike and reiterated its opposition to the government's salary policies for active and retired workers.

GUIMARAES TO CONTINUE AS CHAMBER PRESIDENT

PY301541 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia in Portuguese 1000 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes will remain in the presidency of the Chamber of Deputies until the congressional recess in July. The deputy himself has confirmed this information.

Despite appeals to him by advisers, the president of the PMOB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] and president of the Chamber of Deputies, Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, has decided not to ask permission to take medical leave for treatment. According to him, he has recovered and he can resume work. The internal regulations of the Chamber of Deputies are very clear in this regard: If the president of the Chamber of Deputies is in Brasilia and has not obtained a leave of absence, he must preside over the plenary sessions.

With regard to yesterday's newspaper reports, Guimaraes said that they are confusing and asked for more undrstanding with regard to his health.

[Begin Guimaraes recording] It must be understood that I was tired and sick. I did not ask permission before when I was ill for 10-12 days. But this time I was really suffering from fatigue. [end recording]

Guimaraes yesterday met with the charge d'affaires of the Soviet Embassy, Vladimir Spoliarov, to confirm his trip to Moscow in July. After that trip, Guimaraes will begin a tour of the country's main cities, campaigning for the Constituent Assembly. Next week, he will make a speech on the Constitutent Assembly in Congress, but he did not want to reveal the content of his speech.

[Begin Guimaraes recording] I believe that my speech will be a surprise. I am phoning law professors of Sao Paulo, and the speech will be a surprise that I will reveal next week. I will make a speech here in Congress regarding a question about which I will not talk as president of the Chamber of Deputies or as president of the PMOB, but as a simple deputy. I will present an amendment that I consider important, and I will see who agrees with me. [end recording]

Guimaraes will stay in Brasilia this weekend. Next week he will begin to implement modifications on the voting panel in the plenum of the Chamber of Deputies in preparation for the national Constituent Assembly. Early next week, he will also work out agreements with the party leaders to define the agenda. This will demand a concentrated effort during midweek.

Walter Veloso reporting for Jornal Nacional.

INTERIOR MINISTER REJECTS ELECTION PROPOSAL

PY310014 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1300 GMT 30 May 86

[By Juan Jorge Faundes]

[Text] Santiago, 30 May (EFE) -- Chilean Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia has poured "a bucket of cold water" on the opposition's hopes for a peaceful transition toward democracy in Chile, stating that the principles of the military regime "cannot be put at stake by holding elections." The interior minister's unexpected statement comes at the end of a 1-month deadline that the opposition, grouped under Civic Assembly, gave the regime to accept a rapid and peaceful transition toward full democracy. Debate on the presidential succession system is being heatedly discussed by the public. The regime's Constitution provides for the nomination by the Armed Forces in 1989 of a single candidate, who is to be ratified by a plebiscite, while the opposition, and even progovernment groups, propose the holding of direct, free, secret, and publicized elections in 1989 or earlier. During a conference on "democracy and constitutionality" held yesterday in Vina del Mar, Garcia opposed the holding of elections that could jeopardize the Chilean position "within a Western Hemisphere and Christian world to which we belong." The interior minister, who spoke at the Vina del Mar municipal theater on its 108th anniversary, also stated that the government's responsibility is to outline the principles and tenets of the military regime "without setting a given deadline." Observers are interpreting the interior minister's words as an indirect response to the petitions the Civic Assembly made 1 month ago, petitions which, thus far, have not received any official response.

In contrast to Garcia's statements, former Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa said on Monday -- during a luncheon with the foreign press -- that "there is almost a consensus to reform the Constitution in order to hold elections and not just a plebiscite to ratify a single candidate in 1989." According to Jarpa, a plebiscite to ratify a single candidate (who, according to the opposition, could be Pinochet) might drag the Armed Forces into an untenable position if the nation's majority opinion winds up opposing their candidate. On the other hand, Admiral Jose Toribio Merino, a member of the Government Junta and the Navy chief of staff, in the past few days has reasserted his opinion that constitutional reform is necessary to achieve more flexibility because "time is already running out for us." In addition, opposition publications, such as the magazine APSI, have leaked that General Fernando Matthei, a member of the Government Junta and the Air Force chief of staff, endorses constitutional reform in order to hold free elections in 1989. APSI even attributed to governmental sources reports that Pinochet is unhappy with Gen Matthei and is reportedly considering having him resign from the Government Junta because of his open disagreement with Pinochet concerning the country's future. Other publications state that Carabineros Director General Rodolfo Stange, the other member of the Government Junta, also endorses consitutional changes.

Therefore, for the opposition magazines, only Gen Pinochet and the Army, of which Gen Pinochet is commander in chief, reportedly agree with the current constitutional timetable. Within this context, the comments by the Interior minister, that there should not be any deadlines of elections that risk the regime's "principles and tenets" and its "basic work" are like pouring "a bucket of cold water" on all the opposition sectors. In addition, upon expiration of the deadline it gave the government for a response to its proposal, the Civic Assembly will begin implementing a civil disobedience program aimed at forcing the regime to take immediate steps leading to the country's democratization.

BARCO ON CONTADORA, GUERRILLAS, UNEMPLOYMENT

PA301740 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 27 May 86 p 2 D

[Excerpts] President-elect Virgilio Barco Vargas said yesterday that his government will receive a country that is expanding except in the areas of unemployment and inflation. He expressed support for the Contadora Group which seeks to achieve peace for Central America and noted that if Contadora "still exists" when he assums office, Colombia will continue to be involved in these efforts. Barco Vargas especially referred to economic aspects before leaving for Mexico City yesterday where he will spend 8 days.

Regarding the Contadora Group, Barco Vargas repeated that it is "a group of good offices," that Colombia is a country that has always believed in the peaceful settlement of conflicts, and that in this case, we are helping in another country. "If Contadora still exists when I assume office, I will gladly continue lending tsese good offices in favor of peace in Central America, he noted explaining that he feels that special attention must be given to the country's border disputes. [quotation marks as published]

Asked about the way in which his government will handle the guerrilla problem and the peace process, he said: "I have said it 20 times that it is the most difficult problem and that we are going to focus all our attention on it. The solution has not worked because the current administration has not become involved with its officials in these efforts. I hope that it will be government officials who will become responsible for this task under the leadership of the government minister, of a person of that stature, in order to make progress in these negotiations."

ARMED FORCES PLEDGE SUPPORT TO NEW PRESIDENT

PA310141 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 27 May 86 p 3 A

[Text] The Armed Forces have offered the new government their support. On Sunday night Defense Minister General Miguel Vega Uribe visited the newly elected president after learning of his victory at the polls. Vega Uribe stated that the Armed Forces would always back a government legitimately elected by the people, which was the case with Barco Vargas.

Some active and retired military personnel, upon being questioned by EL TIEMPO, commented that the fundamental thing for the Armed Forces is that the Colombian people have demonstrated that they back the traditional parties and have once again set an example of authentic patriotism. Barco's victory, for the military, is a victory of democracy over a minority that sometimes backs subversion and terrorism. It is an authentic demonstration of public spirit and absolute faith in the country's institutions.

The military spokesman, who asked not to be identified, said that the triumph of one of the country's traditional parties also represents support for the Armed Forces, which are the pillars that allow institutionality to remain safe and to project itself with great strength into the future. The military sources again stated: "This gives democracy significant momentum to counter the totalitarian pretenses of the extreme left, and proof of this is the loyalty and absolute impartiality demonstrated by the Armed Forces during Sunday's debate."

The military men questioned said: "This respect and support for democracy was demonstrated by the Armed Forces on Sunday to the point of sacrifice -- as in the death of a noncommissioned office and a soldier -- so that the country's democracy could forge ahead."

The minister of defense went as far as to say that Sunday's elections were a victory of democracy over subversion because, despite having resorted to the cowardely method of ambushing Army patrols, the terrorists did not manage to cloud the democratic process. Gen Vega explained that the special mission that the Armed Forces have of defending institutions was accomplished on Sunday, when Colombians were able to go to the polls in complete peace. The high ranking military man stated: "Our mission was fulfilled," and he promised that the Armed Forces will continue in their firm vocation of safeguarding institutions that are faithful to the Constitution and the law.

Colonel Ramirez Gil, retired, secretary general of the Colombian Association of Retired Armed Forces Officials, commented that if most citizens elected Dr Virgilio Barco "It is because they believe that Barco's programs are effective and are going to favor all of us." Ramirez Gil stated: "We are sure that with this government, security and respect for life will be restored. Also, if he proposed programs are met, there will be a period of redemption for all." Ramirez Gill added: "Also, we firmly believe that the much-sought-after peace of which President Belisario Betancur has spoken will be positively reached with Barco."

RAMIREZ ON U.S., VENEZUELA, CONTADORA

PA012036 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 29 May 86 p 6-8

[Text] Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo has announced that the Colombian and U.S. Governments will begin the revision of the extradition treaty on 22 June when a joint commission will define the new bases and mechanisms of the agreement. The foreign minister added that the talks will continue on 27 and 28 June "when it is expected that the two countries will reduce the types of crimes that will fall under the treaty."

Ramirez Ocampo said that although the border dispute with "Venezuela has hit bottom, the Bolivarian spirit of the two countries forces them to seek mechanisms that will put an end to the prolonged dispute over marine and submarine areas."

In a dialogue with the Groupo Radical Colombiano, the foreign minister firmly defended the current government's foreign policy and stressed that he "is absolutely sure that it will be remembered as one of the best in the country's entire history." He also denied that Colombia is planning reprisals against the Venezuelan authorities in view of the systematic violation of the national sovereignty by Venezuelan ships.

In the face of the virtual refusal by the Central American countries to sign the Contadora peace document at the 6 June meeting, he said: "This cannot be viewed as the failure of the Contadora Group because in any case, the government of the area are committed to the search for a political solution in the region." Ramirez Ocampo said that the Colombian Government hopes that the talks that will begin on 22 June will result in the introduction of substantial changes in the extradition treaty. "The modifications," he explained, "basically deal with the reduction of the crimes so that the treaty will be really used for crimes of some seriousness." He added that Colombian delegates Marco Gerardo Monroy and Carlos Restrepo Piedrahita are in charge of studying the reforms in representation of the Betancur administration during the joint meetings that will be held at the end of June. "We hope to finish these talks after 1 year of intense contacts. The modifications that we are proposing only seek to improve the treaty and its scope," the foreign minister said.

GOVERNMENT ADMITS DEFEAT IN PLEBISCITE RETURNS

PA020144 Paris AFP in Spanish 0117 GMT 2 Jun 86

[By Daniel Priollet, special AFP correspondent]

[Text] Quito, 1 Jun (AFP) -- The Ecuadoran Government, in an announcement by Vice President Blasco Penaherrera, has admitted the defeat of the "yes" vote in the referendum organized on Sunday by President Leon Febres Cordero regarding the admission of candidates of independent parties in the elections.

The initial unofficial returns of a total of 2.55 percent of the votes, communicated by the Secretariat of Information, gave -- 2 and 1/2 hours after the polls closed -- an initial projection of the returns with 64.8 percent"no" votes against 23.7 percent "yes" votes.

Although these returns are partial, they allowed the vice president to admit the defeat of the "yes" votes, especially since this vote appeared to be the winner in all the provinces without exception, including Guayas, which has traditionally favored the Social Christian Party of Leon Febres Cordero.

This referendum gave way to an intense election campaign in Ecuador and assumed the characteristics of a vote of popular disapproval of the policy of Febres' government, which was exploited to the maximum by the opposition.

The elections, in which 4.2 million Ecuadorans were convoked, developed calmly. The electors were also to vote to partially renew the House of Representatives and to designate more than 500 municipal and regional councilmen.

Although the returns will be announced late, political observers predict a victory of the center-leftwing opposition.

5 PLRA MEMBERS ARRESTED DURING MEETING

PY301717 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 30 May 86 p 9

[Text] The police yesterday interrupted a meeting of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA] being held to elect the new members of its committee in Yaguaron. Well-known leaders of the party, like Nelson Garcia Ramirez and Francisco Jose de Vargas, who came to Yaguaron as delegates, were arrested. According to information provided by Manuel Benitez Florentin, the PLRA vice president, the police surrounded the house of rank-and-file leader Arnulfo Recalde as the meeting was being held. Rafael Saguier was also arrested. After learning of the arrests, the PLRA Executive Board in Asuncion sent a delegation to Yaguaron to obtain their release.

Late in the evening PLRA leaders told HOY that, of the 48 people arrested, 43 had been released and the remaining 5 had been brought to Asuncion. They are: Rafael Saguier, Juan Masi Guggiari, Francisco Jose de Vargas, Nelson Garcia Ramirez, and Elba Recalde. According to PLRA sources, the arrested people were brought to Asuncion in the automobiles of PLRA leaders because the Yaguaron police did not have vehicles to bring them.

Detainees Released

PY010204 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 31 May 86 p 12

[Text] The leaders of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA], who were detained in the town of Yaguaron, while participating in a political meeting, were released at about 1700 yesterday. They are: Francisco de Vargas, Hermes Rafael Saguier, Juan Masi Guggiari, Nelson Garcia, and Elba Recalde. After being arrested in Yaguaron, the detainees were taken to the Asuncion Central Police Headquarters, with the exception of Elba Recalde who was taken to the Trinidad Police District.

A few minutes after their release, HOY reporters interviewed Dr Francisco de Vargas who said that, before being released, police Inspector Schreiber warned everyone "to find a way of avoiding these problems." Our answer, said De Vargas was that "to spend the night in filthy cells, under inhumane conditions, was not very pleasant for us either." De Vargas then added: "We made it clear to Police Inspector Schreiber, however, that we will continue to hold meetings, as we have a sacred right to do."

LAINO STATES INTENTION TO ATTEMPT RETURN SOON

PY310217 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2049 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] Washington, 30 May (EFE) -- Domingo Laino, who heads a political sector that opposes the Paraguayan regime of Alfredo Stroessner and who was expelled from his country, will return to Paraguay in June in the company of a group of Latin American and U.S. political personalities.

During a press conference he gave in Washington, Laino said he had sent a letter to the Paraguayan ambassador in the United States telling him of his intention "with the hope that I will not be prevented for a fifth time from returning to my country to be with my wife and children and from exercising my civic rights."

Robert White, former U.S. ambassador to Paraguay; retired U.S. military officers; bishops of the Catholic Church; and representatives of other Christian churches in the United States have offered to accompany Laino.

The cardinal of Sao Paulo (Brazil), Uruguayans Wilson Ferreira Aldunate (National Party) and Roberto Asiain (of the governing Colorado Party), leaders of the Argentine Parties Radical Civic Union and of the Peronist Renewal Movement, Brazilian politicians, and Paraguayan writer Augusto Roa Bastos are among the Latin Americans who have offered to accompany Laino.

The group will meet in Buenos Aires on a date that is still to be determined. From there it will travel to Asuncion by plane.

Laino stated that once in Paraguay, "I will regain my roots and my family; I will become a member of the national dialogue, which is being implemented by the Catholic Church.

He reiterated his desire to promote a "peaceful transition from the dictatorship to democracy," and he said that "as a democrat I am willing to participate in clean elections, but not in the type of elections that Stroessner has imposed on us and to which he wanted us to become accustomed."

Laino indicated that Stroessner might abandon power in a "short time" and that "this year or next year, Stroessner might permit a political transition" if the United States maintains its pressure "through its ambassador, Clyde Taylor," if international organizations deny loans to the country, and if pressure continues within the country.

He termed "very positive" the attitude of Ambassador Taylor, whom Stroessner accuses of "meddling in internal affairs," but all he is doing, Laino said, is trying to stop human rights violations, and that is not intervention."

Laino, who was invited to Washington by two nongovernment organizations that defend human rights and by the Committee of Paraguayans in New York, which paid his fare, considers that in Paraguay, "the people are ready for freedom and the opposition is organized, but it needs to achieve unity."

During his stay in Washington Laino will meet with State Department officials and Congressional leaders.

BRIEFS

GUANTEMALAN AMBASSADOR -- During a protocol ceremony held at the independence hall of Government Palace, the newly-appointed Guatemalan ambassador to Paraguay, Mr Raul Gonzalez-Garza Rivas, on 23 May presented his credentials to President General Alfredo Stroessner. [Text] [Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 24 May 86 p 1 PY]

NETHERLANDS AMBASSADOR -- During a protocol ceremony held at the independence hall of Government Palace, President General Alfredo Stroessner this morning received the credentials of the newly-appointed Netherlander ambassador, Eldred Gabriel Maduro. [Excerpt] [Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 26 May 86 p 13 PY]

FIRST QUARTER INFLATION RATE -- The Central Bank has reported that the cumulative inflation rate for the first quarter of 1986 reached 15.4 percent. [Excerpt] [Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 14 May 86 p 12 PY]

SHINING PATH COLUMN OCCUPIES 4 ANDEAN TOWNS

PY301857 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1300 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] A Shining Path column has occupied four towns in the Andes, forced the town authorities to resign, looted and set fire to several stores, and conducted an unsuccessful attack against two court members and a police patrol. According to reports, there were no casualties in the towns of Carhuajara, Corpanqui, Gorgorillo, and Canis, located in the Bolognesi Province of Ancash Department. Police have reported that the column may be the same one that attacked Judge Pablo Dextre and Prosecutor Julio Munoz Aranda who were saved by a 10-member Civil Guard patrol that fought off the attack.

TERRORISTS KILL 5 PEOPLE CHARGED WITH INFORMING

PY311206 Paris AFP in Spanish 1947 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] Huanuco, Peru, 30 May (AFP) -- The Civil Guard today reported that on 29 May a Shining Path column slit the throats of five members of a family -- three women and two men -- and set their house afire on an estate located in Venerillo district, Huanuco, 423 km east of Lima.

An eyewitness who reported the incident to the police stated that the heavily armed terrorists broke into the house and after taking out the five people, subjected them to a people's trial for being police informers. The terrorists then slit their throats despite their entreaties and set the house on fire. The police found a sign next to the bodies that read: This is how informers die. The police stated that it was impossible to identify the bodies because the terrorists burned the palms of their hands, their faces, and part of their bodies.

Afterward, the criminals entered the jungle, the sources stated.

CONGRESSIONAL SECURITY TIGHTENED AFTER ARRESTS

PY291901 Lima Panamerican Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 29 May 86

[Excerpts] Deputy Freddy Gilardi has reported that eight presumed terrorists have been arrested inside the congressional building, one of them a Senate employee. the Republican Guard is now conducting an operation to prevent strangers from entering congressional session rooms.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Deputy Gilardi, what actions have been taken to keep strangers out of the Chamber of Deputies?

[Gilardi] Today, with the approval of Chamber President Luis Negreiros, we ordered that no strangers are to be allowed in the Chamber of Deputies. Accredited newsmen will be allowed in the pressroom.

[Reporter] We understand that eight people charged with subversive acitivities were arrested here a few days ago.

[Gilardi] That is correct. Eight people were arrested, one of them a Senate employee who worked in the barber shop. [end recording]

AGRICULTURE MINISTER RESIGNS; REPLACEMENT NAMED

PY310100 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0001 GMT 1 Jun 86

[Text] Agriculture and Fishing Minister Roberto Vazquez Platero has tendered his resignation, which was accepted by the executive branch. Radio Carve has learned that Pedro Bonino, the present Agriculture Ministry under secretary, has been appointed as the new agriculture minister. He will assume his duties within the next few hours, or more likely, on 2 June.

PIT-CNT STRIKE TERMED PARTIALLY SUCCESSFUL

PY310348 Paris AFP in Spanish 0134 GMT 31 May 86

[Text] Montevideo, 30 May (AFP) -- Uruguayan workers today partially obeyed the 6-hour strike that had been called by the PIT-CNT [Inter-Union Workers Plenum-National Convention of Workers] labor central to protest the government's decision to declare essential the payment of pensions and customs activities. [Depriving social security and customs workers of the right to strike]

According to labor estimates, the measure, which sought a total stoppage of activities between 1200 and 1800, was obeyed by 75 percent of the public and private employees, but official sources estimate that only 50 percent of the workers obeyed.

There were practically no financial activities during the day State offices reduced their work to a minimum, but a large number of shops opened normally and in some industrial areas the level of work was regular.

Urban bus companies ran an emergency service, which sporadically covered passenger demand.

During a demonstration in a downtown plaza, the PIT-CNT leadership rejected the classification of essential services and accused the executive branch of restricting the right to strike.

During a ceremony that was held at the same time in the interior, President Julio Sanguinetti severely criticized the attitude of the labor central.

Labor sources have stated that the conflict between the government and the unions could worsen on 1 June when the PIT-CNT holds a national assembly, where it might decide to carry out a 24-hour strike some time next week.

Labor and Social Security Minister Hugo Fernandez Faingold today met with the labor leaders to evaluate the situation, but there were no statements at the end of the meeting.

Labor leaders were considering the possibility that the delegation of Uruguayan workers who will travel to Geneva to participate in the ILO's annual meeting will question the candidacy of Fernandez, who has been proposed to chair the event.

CABRERA COMMENTS ON LAST CONTADORA GROUP MEETING

PA310011 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] While international press agencies have reported in their dispatches from Panama that the Contadora efforts have failed and that the Contadora peace act for Central America will not be signed on June 8 as planned, Panamanian Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabera reported on the group's last meeting this week.

[Begin recording] The Central American deputy foreign ministers, after a very private meeting among themselves, requested from us a prudent amount of time to return to their respective capitals in order to carry out consultations with their respective governments regarding the discussions that took place among the nine countries, and later among the five of them. [end recording]

COLUMNIST SKEPTICAL ABOUT REVISIONS TO LAW 96-70

PA302155 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 29 May 86 p 5

["Vox Populi" column by Luis Restrepo: "Clear Warning"]

[Text] Everything seems to indicate that newly-arrived U.S. Ambassador Arthur Davis Jr wants to follow in the footsteps of proconsul [Everett] Briggs. The latter was criticized for his impertinent and undiplomatic attitude of directly snooping all over the country, as well as indirectly by sending embassy officials on espionage missions to different areas of Panama. We must bear in mind that Mr Davis is not good news. Davis has been denounced for his collaboration with the Paraguayan Government of General Alfredo Stroessner, and for becoming his good friend." [quotation mark as published] We must also remember his unfortunate statements at the U.S. Senate committee hearing; he was overtly interventionist and anti-Panamanian.

It is very likely that Mr Davis' interventionist "record" prompted the strong and clear statement by Democratic Revolutionary Party President Romulo Escobar Bethancourt. He warned Mr Davis that "his party had adopted an alert and militant stance regarding any attempts by the ambassador to intervene in matters that fall within the purview of Panama and Panamanians."

Previously, during a meeting with Panamanian legislators, Ambassador Davis was cautioned that the Republic of Panama once again rejected U.S. Law 96-70, as this law is an interventionist and racist instrument which is inadmissible to the dignity of the Panamanian people. One must understand that Mr Davis' reply about a "possible revision of that law" is just a diplomatic evasion because /if Panama does not exert the constant and strong pressures that are called for, if it does not decide to bring Panama's case before all international forums, denouncing the violations to the Torrijos-Carter treaties, the United States will delay any action and Law 96-70 will remain in effect until the treaties end./ [passage within slantlines published in capital letters]

Dr Escobar Bethancourt, an expert in the struggles against colonialism and against interventionism, knows perfectly well that by not answering the letters of protest of the Panamanian Government, the United States is maintaining the interventionist apparatus. For that reason, Escobar Bethancourt issued that timely and clear warning which we have commented on in this space.

EL SIGLO DENOUNCES GOVERNMENT 'BLACKMAIL'

PA302209 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 30 May 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Mr Minister, We Say No to Submission"]

[Text] We must communicate very disturbing incidents to the people. The newspaper EL SIGLO came into existence in Panama with the simple objective of informing and guiding the people. We have never claimed to be the guardians of honesty nor judges in the ominous controversies taking place in the country. We have always maintained that we are neither with the government nor the opposition.

However, in our attempt to fulfill this objective; that is, to inform in a most simple and objective fashion, we have had to embrace conciliation formulas and, on many occasions, to silence unpleasant news in order to ensure that our paper would continue to exist. This is due to a problem involving simple mathematics common to all newspapers in the world. To print 30,000 copies a day, we must spend an average of $140,000 per month in paper, expenses, and wages. We make $120,000 in newspaper sales each month and must cover the $20,000 difference with advertisements. So far, we have obtained many of these advertisements from government offices in exchange for a few commitments, although on occasion, we have had to go to humiliating extremes in order to collect payments.

We must let the people know about something that happened yesterday: A government official, specifically a minister of state, displaying his proverbial stupidity, tried to blackmail us into changing our objectivity, and harshly criticized our publication of Archbishop Marcos McGrath's statements regarding the assassination of Father Gallegos. He said that such publications hurt the Democratic Revolutionary Party and are very damaging. He also said that EL SIGLO discredited the Defense Forces with the publication of a report stating that the DENI's [National Investigation Department] Narcotics Department lost $394,000 in money orders sent to a local attorney and which were seized by the DENI on 1 May 1986. If that minister is actually acting on behalf of the government, then what they want is submission, and they will not find that in EL SIGLO.

The government has the right to grant or deny us advertisements from its agencies and ministries. If President Delvalle himself, as the minister reported, ordered that official advertisements be withheld from us, we deplore that action but accept something inevitable.

In order to cover the $20,000 difference between our revenues and expenditures, we will be forced to cut down on expenditures and perhaps to cut down on the number of pages. In the face of this, we make a call on the private sector and mainly on men and women who manage advertisement companies to view our newspaper as what it is: a great vehicle to reach the public in the most isolated areas of our country. We are not asking for favors or alms. We are asking for recognition for our 1 and 1/2 years of work.

Meanwhile, we ask Bruno Garisto [agricultural development minister], Manuel Solis Palma [education minister], Jilma Noriega de Jurado [Panama City mayor], Carlos de Sedas [health minister], Engineer Luis Blanco [National Institute of Telecommunications director] -- we ask Legislators Luis Gomez, Rigoberto Paredes, and party leaders such as Engineer Ramon Sieiro and Roderick Esquivel, among many others, to sincerely state whether EL SIGLO deserved this kind of treatment.

COSTA RICA

FINANCE MINISTER DISCUSSES FOREIGN DEBT

PA310357 San Jose LA PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 27 May 86 p 5

[Text] Finance Minister Dr. Fernando Naranjo has reported that during his recent trip to Miami he met with members of the committee of private banks to whom Costa Rica owes miliions of dollars to explain the reason for the delay in the payment of interest. Naranjo added that the delay will continue for some weeks because Costa Rica has not received the $40 million corresponding to the first payment of the AID assistance for this year, nor has Costa Rica recevied the second payment of the loan for the structural adjustment of the economy (SAL). Dr Naranjo indicated that the necessary understanding from the banks' representatives had been obtained. Agreement was reached on granting a reasonable period of time to Costa Rica. Once Costa Rica receives the $80 million, it will pay the overdue interest. The national negotiators were satisfied with this.

The finance minister said that the meeting was also a suitable forum for expressing to the bankers the desire of the Costa Rican Government to meet the debts and the interest payments under terms and conditions different than the present ones. According to the government official, the important thing is to reach a consensus with the international banks to search for new formulas to service the debt, methods other countries have not yet explored. "In those formulas we attempt to combine the understanding of the international banks, our position, and the government decision to honor the commitments. [no end quotation mark, as published]

The finance minister believes that the interest Costa Rica is currently paying is a heavy burden, therefore, necessitating some changes. For example, as interest on the foreign debt is paid, the banks lend funds to promote exports. This would permit the recycling of that foreign exchange.

Another alternative the government has considered is that some government may buy part of the Costa Rican foreign debt. Naranjo admitted that the Costa Rican foreign debt is not very attractive because the loans were requested under onerous conditions. Moreover, the banks also made mistakes by granting the loans without taking into account the country's possibilities to pay. He also noted that Costa Rica is in a position to negotiate more flexible conditions for the payment of the debt with the international banks without setting aside the production process. Finally, the official emphasized that the formulas proposed so far are in agreement with the scope of the Baker initiative.

EL SALVADOR

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ON NICARAGUAN PROPOSAL

PA310118 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] At noon, Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta reported on the results of the meeting of plenipotentiaries held in Panama from 27 to 30 May.

He said that during the meeting they got involved in the negotiation of the weapons issue which was frustrated by the intransigent position of the Nicaraguans, who insisted on basing the negotiations on their proposal that only includes nonexistent weapons. Therefore, in addition to leaving their arsenal intact, it prevents an increase in the inventories of weapons in Central America. According to the deputy foreign minister, this situation goes against that which is stated in point seven of the document of objectives signed in September 1983 establishing the commitment to put an end to the arms buildup.

El Salvador, jointly with Guatemala, Honduras, and Costa Rica, presented a proposal that reduces the following: troops, transportation vehicles, armored vehicles, paratroopers, field artillery -- which includes howitzers and 105-mm mortars -- field artillery, which also includes howitzers and mortars from 152-mm to 155-mm, multiple artillery, combat tanks, transportation helicopters for a 5-man crew, helicopter gunships, subsonic jets, supersonic jets, 5-passenger transportation airplanes, launches that are up to 60 feet long, as well as launches that are up to 61 to 65 feet long. Another key issue discussed was the reduction and elimination of launches that are from 76 to 120 feet long.

Referring to the 14 points proposed by Nicaragua to the plenipotentiaries in Contadora, a proposal contained in a document that was also presented to the Central American leaders in Esquipulas, Acevedo Peralta said:

[Begin Acevedo Peralta recording] Nicaragua, for its part, presented a list of 14 points which to us is confusing, incomplete, warmongering, illogical,and [word indistinct]. It is confusing because it mixes everything: weapons, military maneuvers, and an underlying element, the extraregional factor of a potential aggression which introduces elements that are completely outside the reach of the current reality of Central America. It is incomplete because it only regulates that which benefits that country: the weapons they don't have and which they describe as offensive. And, the defensive weapons, which covers all those they have, will not be regulated. Therefore, only a few nonexistent weapons are regulated by that proposal, which is not what they have. This proposal doesn't even mention the troops, and this goes against that which is stated in point seven. The Nicaraguans feel that the armed militia must not be regulated because the militiamen do not kill and the rifles that they have do not kill. [end recording]

These were remarks by Acevedo Peralta, who held a news conference at the Camino Real Hotel at noon today after summoning the reporters to the Foreign Ministery [as heard]. Colonel Natividad Caceres also attended this meeting with reporters. He is a member of the Salvadoran delegation to the Contadora Group. He said that the arguments that Nicaragua uses regarding a possible invasion are not valid because it will never be able to face the world's biggest power: the United States.

HONDURAS

POSITION SLATED FOR LATEST CONTADORA MEETING

PA011946 Panama city LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 1 Jun 86 p C 2

[Communique issued by Honduran Embassy in Panama City dated 29 May]

[Text] The meeting of plenipotentiaries of the Central American countries was convened by the Contadora Group for the purpose of culminating negotiations on the pending points of the Contadora Document on the basis of two proposals: the one presented jointly by Costa Rica and Guatemala, which was supported by Honduras and El Salvador, and the proposal by Nicaragua.

The discussions centered on the topic of the limitation, reduction, and control of armaments. After 2 days of intense discussions, a serious impasse emerged just a few days before the date set for the signing of the document. The impasse was a result of the firm position of Nicaragua and its unwillingness to undertake an in-depth negotiation on disarmament.

Nicaragua restricts negotiations to a very small list of 10 [as published] armaments that it considers offensive weapons and of which it only possess 3. It leaves outside the negotiation its armed men and military arsenal. Nicaragua has publicly expressed a willingness to negotiate, but this does not correspond to its actions, which have endangered the bold peace efforts that have been carried out for more than 3 years.

On making known these facts to the public, the Honduran Embassy reiterates its government's decision to adopt simultaneous and verifiable regional commitments on all topics under negotiation for the purpose of guaranteeing peace and cooperation in the Central American isthmus.

Panama City, Republic of Panama, 29 May 1986.

REGALADO HERNANDEZ ON MILITARY TIES WITH U.S.

PA302118 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0100 GMT 30 May 86

[Report by Mario Calix]

[Text] The military treaties with the United States will be reviewed to correct those defects that have been discovered only in an effort to improve Honduran soldiers. The commander of the Armed Forces [General Humberto Regalado Hernandez], who accompanied the president in his tour of the United States, said that these treaties include the military maneuvers.

[Begin recording] [Regalado Hernandez] Well, the truth is that we had certain protocols that had to be coordinated in the United States. We coordinated these pending protocols which they had there and others which had been approved by the National Congress here.

[Calix] Were the military ties with the United States srtengthened?

[Regalado Hernandez] Yes, they are strengthened. I don't know if you already have the joint declaration issued by President Reagan and President Azcona, but it became evident in that declaration.

[Calix] Will the joint maneuvers increase this year?

[Regalado Hernandez] We are reviewing the results of this year's maneuvers in order to begin planning those for next year.

[Calix] Do you plan to amend any mistakes present in previous maneuvers?

[Regalado Hernandez] The truth is that these military maneuvers serve to test the training given to the troops.

[Calix] Do they permit an improvement of Honduran soldiers?

[Regalado Hernandez] They have permitted a coordination between the U.S. and Honduran Armed Forces, as well as the completion of certain infrastructure projects that benefit the Honduran people. [end recording]

AZCONA SEES U.S. ROLE IF CONTADORA FAILS

PA301715 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1130 GMT 30 May 86

[Excerpt] Honduran President Jose Azcona said yesterday in Washington that if the Contadora agreement fails because it was signed hastily and if Nicaragua does not comply with it, the other Central American countries would have to resort to the United States for help. At a news conference, Azcona said that if Nicaragua does not comply with the Contadora agreement because the control and verification measures were not correctly stipulated, the neighboring Central American countries would have to resort to the United States for help.

The Honduran president said that the United States does not have to be the guarantor or arbitrator of the agreement. However, he sympathized with Washington's concern over the way in which the stipulations will be drafted in the document that is to be signed. He described Washington's concern as logical. Azcona did not specify the kind of aid that would be requested from the United States. The Honduran president ended a 4-day official visit to the United States after meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan. Asked if Reagan supports the signing of the Contadora Document, Azcona said that he got the impression that Reagan is worried that the document will be signed but not respected. Reagan is right. If Contadora fails we would have to resort to the United States for help. So it would not be right to sign it hastily and perhaps find that serious mistakes had been made.

NICARAGUA

FURTHER ON FRG WORKERS HELD BY CONTRAS

FRG's Wischnewski Arrives

PA302137 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2010 GMT 30 May 86

[Excerpts] Managua, 30 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The German Social Democratic [SPD] leader Hans Juergen Wischnewski arrived here today to participate in the efforts to obtain the release of eight West German volunteers kidnapped by the anti-Sandinists more than 2 weeks ago. Initial reports did not elaborate on the exact nature of Wischnewski's business in Managua, where he will remain for 2 days. FRG Embassy sources in this capital declined to comment on the purpose of Wischnewski's visit. The SPD leader will meet with officials of the FSLN International Relations Directorate and with a delegation of the West German volunteers working for the Nicaraguan Government. A statement issued by the Managua government gave no details on the mission Wischnewski began today.

Wischnewski Meets Ortega

PA310352 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0315 GMT 31 May 86

[Text] Managua, 30 May (DPA) -- Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega today proposed that the FRG Government or FRG Deputy Hans Juergen Wischnewski be the ones to negotiate with the FDN for the release of eight FRG volunteers who were kidnapped by the contras 15 days ago, and the Sandinist regime said it would support the negotiations.

Ortega revealed the Sandinist proposal following a 90-minute meeting with the German Social Democratic parliamentary member, who arrived in Managua today upon the request by the relatives of the eight volunteers who were kidnapped from an agricultural settlement 350 km southeast of Managua. Wischnewski refused to speak to the journalists on his meeting with Ortega at the headquarters of the FSLN, of which the Nicaraguan president acts as coordinator. He said: "We must talk no more, we must act immediately," when referring to the negotiations to release the hostages.

Ortega said that the FDN group which has the hostages is 20 km northwest of the Atlanta lumber mill, and the leader is Israel Galeano Cornejo (alias "Franklin"), whose commander is Rigoberto Fonseca Luna, alias "Ganso," a mercenary leader who operates from Costa Rica. Ortega blamed the U.S. Government for the FRG volunteers' kidnapping, saying that Washington supports and directs the "mercenary forces" which hold them hostages. He added that the FRG's efforts, or Wischnewski's, must be exerted with the United States, as follows:

A) Make the corresponding contacts (either the FRG Government of Wischnewski) so that the U.S. Government takes the necessary measures and the FRG citizens are released by the mercenary kidnappers in a short time.

B) Likewise, the U.S. Government must order, through the FDN commanders based in Honduras, mercenary member "Franklin," who is the commander of mercenary member "Gato Colindres," to do the following:

B. 1) Release the kidnapped FRG citizens at the Atlanta lumber mill camp.

B. 2) Leave the eight FRG citizens at any point in the lumber mill camp which the mercenary group considers will prove more secure.

B. 3) Withdraw immediately from the lumber mill camp, thus guaranteeing that when our troops (the Sandinist People's Army) establishes contact with the FRG citizens there will be no crossfire that may endanger the hostages' lives.

B. 4) The Nicaraguan Government guarantees that the EPS troops will remain idle when the German hostages are released and during the withdrawal of the mercenary forces from the area.

B. 5) The U.S. Government, through its mercenary FDN agent "Franklin," must order the mercenary group directly involved in the liberation of the hostages in Atlanta to refrain from opening fire against the Sandinist Air Force helicopter that will be transporting the special West German envoy (Wischnewski, according to Ortega) to the Atlanta lumber camp to retrieve the hostages.

C) The U.S. Government can also ask the mercenary chief "Ganso," Rigoberto Fonseca Luna, who operates out of Costa Rica, to contact the mercenary forces led by "Gato Colindres," as the route that will be used by the mercenary group holding the German nationals in the Atlanta area was outlined by said mercenary chief. It appears that the contras, who number 150 men but are not with the hostages, are attempting to occupy the Nicaraguan Atlantic coast, because the route they have followed over the past several days places them 70 km from the coast.

Rebels Reject FRG Proposal

PA012233 Paris AFP in Spanish 2141 GMT 1 Jun 86

[Text] San Jose, 1 Jun (AFP) -- The Nicaraguan rebels who kidnapped and have been holding eight West German volunteer workers since 17 May in Nicaragua, rejected a proposal by the FRG to release their hostages, their spokesmen told AFP in San Jose today. The sources revealed that negotiations are underway with the German Embassy in Costa Rica on the possibility of sending a helicopter to the region where the Germans are being held and that they will only agree to release them to a third country, which might be Costa Rica.

Friday night the Nicaraguan Government offered an Army helicopter to transfer the kidnapped volunteer workers from the southern sector of Zelaya Department in southeastern Nicaragua, where they are being held by the rebel armed forces. For their part, the contras, as one of its spokesmen told AFP today, propose that the transfer be made in a special aircraft obtained by the German Government that does not belong to the Nicaraguan Army, and that the kidnapped persons be released to a third country. Also, they propose that the helicopter -- after Nicaragua guarantees that it will not be downed -- carry German Government delegates, a ranking representative of the International Red Cross, two medics, and a Costa Rican Government representative. This is the "only way to guarantee the safety of the Germans and prevent manipulation" by the Sandinist Front, the source added.

The spokesman accused the Nicaraguan Government of "delaying the release of the eight hostages due to instransigence," because, he said, "it does not agree to international intervention" in the negotiations. He also blamed the Sandinists for the physical condition of the hostages, affirming that the Germans have had to be mobilized "by our people in view of the siege of the Sandinist troops." Nevertheless, he affirmed that the eight "are well," considering the "difficulties of their situation."

"We will never agree to leaving the Germans there," the source stated, referring to the part of the Nicaraguan proposal that states that the release must take place in the Atlanta lumber camp near the region of Rama in central Zelaya, 300 km from Managua. Regarding the possibility that they may be released this week, the anti-Sandinist spokesman said: "The swiftness of the release depends on the Sandinist government," as does the progress of the negotiations with the German Government to that effect.

Replacement Volunteers Depart

PA301345 Managua International Service in Spanish 0001 GMT 31 May 86

[Text] A brigade made up of 20 volunteers of 12 nationalities today left for Nueva Guinea, 300 km southeast of Managua. Their intention is to take over the tasks of the eight FRG citizens kidnapped by mercenaries on 17 May. Approximately 250 foreign volunteers and U.S. citizens residing in Nicaragua bade farewell to the volunteers in front of the U.S. Embassy.

MISURASATA, BOS ANNOUNCE NEW REBEL ALLIANCE

PA311344 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2044 GMT 30 May 86

[By Wilfredo Chacon S.]

[Text] San Jose, 30 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Leaders in exile of the Indian organization Misurasata [Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Sandinist Unity] and the Southern Opposition Bloc [BOS] announced today a new alliance to continue fighting against the Sandinist Government. Brooklyn Rivera, leader of Misurasata, and Alfredo Cesar, representing the fighters who decided to continue under the BOS flag, have pledged to struggle until they achieve the installation of a pluralist and democratic regime in Nicaragua.

The new group includes Commander Franklin and Roberto "Tito" Chamorro, two former commanders of the forces which were led for 3 years by Eden Pastora, who abandoned the armed struggle 2 weeks ago and turned himself over to the Costa Rican authorities. The new rebel organization hopes, first, that the Nicaraguan Opposition Unity (UNO) agrees to join the alliance and their efforts and, second, that the U.S. Government takes them into consideration when distributing the $100 million that President Reagan intends to give the anti-Sandinists. "We urge UNO to join the democratic agreement of all the resistance forces, thus allowing the coordination of efforts within a framework of each group's own identity and mutual respect," it is stated in the declaration which was signed here at noon today by Rivera and Cesar.

In addition, and with the intention of allowing the combatants to continue, the two leaders revealed that they have presented requests to the U.S. Administration and the U.S. Congress, so that they are not excluded from the aid. Nevertheless, we will continue the struggle "with or without aid" until we give the Nicaraguans back their democracy and liberty, the Miskito leader stated. They admitted that "certain sectors in the U.S. Administration are stubbornly trying to divide and destroy the rebel organizations and their leaders." They also denounced a "turncoat tendency" by certain Nicaraguans who give preference to their "personal ambitions" before national interests.

On the contrary, BOS and Misurasata stated their decision to support the legitimate resistance struggle being carried out by "thousands of fighters throughout the country." Referring to the BOS' situation, Alfredo Cesar said that, instead of disintegrating, the organization was "purged" of certain members who were trying to sabotage it under the leadership of a "man with a small beard" (he admitted that he was talking about Alfonso Robelo, but refused to mention him).

Cesar and Rivera signed a "joint initiative" within the framework of a general assembly which was held by the two organizations this morning to issue the official declaration. The declaration urges "other independent, legitimate, and progressive forces and persons," to join an authentically democratic and Nicaraguan political alternative within the resistance.

Misurasata and BOS stated their support for the peace efforts exerted "by democratic countries in central America and the Contadora Group" and based on the understanding that the document to be signed includes "clear and specific deadlines for Nicaragua' democratization" and efficient control and verification mechanisms.

PLI PROTESTS 'SINISTER PLAN' AGAINST PARTY

PA312255 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1920 GMT 31 May 86

[Text] Managua, 31 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The opposition's Independent Liberal Party [PLI] has accused the Sandinist regime of implementing a military plan aimed at destroying that organization's structures. The PLI, which is the parliament's third force, released a communique today in which it accuses the "Sandinist officials" of trying to "silence and tear apart" their political group, which is a strong adversary of the ruling party.

The Sandinist government, with its "sinister plan," is trying to "make acknowledged PLI members appear as counterrevolutionaries, using groundless, illogical, and unreasonable propaganda," the communique stated. The PLI also protested what it described as "a wave of house raids and arrests during night hours against party leaders in Nueva Segovia Department."

On 21 May, State Security agents arrested 37 Nicaraguans who were accused of trying to attack four cities in the northern part of the country. Among those implicated was Jose Castillo Rocha, a PLI member in Ocotal, who admitted his participation in the creation of an "internal terrorist front" in Esteli, located 130 km from the capital. Liberal militant Pedro Joaquin Ponce was also accused of participating in counterrevolutionary activities.

PLI sources have denied the participation of PLI militants in terrorist actions. The Liberals have also protested a "systematic campaign" against them in 24 Nicaraguan cities, where "agents of the government's repression organs have demanded the delivery of the minutes from the meetings and lists of party members."

BRIEFS

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH USSR -- In Moscow, a cultural and scientific cooperation agreement between the USSR and Nicaragua for 1986-1987 has been signed. The document was signed by Yuri Kirichenko, chief of the USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry Cultural Relations Department, and Ernesto Castillo Martinez, Nicaraguan ambassador to the USSR. [Summary] [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 23 May 86 p 8 PA]

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH SWEDEN -- Today, Nicaragua and Sweden signed a cooperation agreement for 250 million krona, or approximately $28 million. The funds will be used in the mining, forestry, and energy sectors and to increase imports of agricultural raw materials. [Excerpts] [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish] [0200 GMT 30 May PA]

PLC OFFICIALS ELECTED -- The Liberal Constitutionalist Party, PLC, has appointed Armando Zambrana Alvarado as executive secretary, Vicente Ambragui Legal, assistant executive secretary, and Jose Antonio Serrano Robleto as member of the board of directors. Dr Pedro A. Matus Gonzalez has been elected as PLG delegate to the National Assembly. [Summary] [Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 May 86 PA]

RODRIGUEZ HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE ION MONTEVIDEO

Withdrawal of Cuban Advisers

PA300458 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 29 May 86

[Report by Mario Nelson Santos on 29 May from Montevideo, Uruguay, live or recorded]

[Excerpt] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, had contacts with the press today, on the eve of his departure. After having lunch with journalists, he held a news conference at the central Victoria Plaza Hotel, where he has been staying.

Meanwhile, Uruguayan parliamentarians stressed the clarity and frankness in Carlos Rodriguez' speech on Cuba's international policy, which he delivered before the Foreign Affairs Legislative Commissions.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez referred to various topics concerning the current international situations, such as Central America, the foreign debt, Africa, and particcularly, Latin America's integration. Regarding the situation in Central America and the threats against Nicaragua, Rodriguez said before the Foreign Affairs Legislative Commissions:

[Begin Rodriguez recording] If as a result of the debates leading to peace in Central America it is decided that military advisers must leave, our advisers will leave as soon as Nicaragua signs that agreement. Also, if as a result of that agreement it is decided that civilian collaborators must leave -- whether they are doctors, engineers, agricultural or sugar experts -- Cuba will also accept that decision. [end recording]

Fidel Castro's Health

FL301834 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 May 86

[Excerpts] The result of the 5-day visit to our country by Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez is seen as highly positive for strengthening relations between Uruguay and Cuba. Rodriguez concluded his visit last night.

During his last few hours in Uruguay, Rodriguez met with the highest government authorities. He also visited the parliament where he spoke to members of the Interational Affairs Commission. Rodriguez met with political parties and trade unions.

During a press conference, the Cuban vice president said that Cuba supports Nicaraguan policy, as well as its position and opinions on the Contadora Group. Cuba will withdraw its personnel from Nicaragua if the agreements reached call for it, because, said Rodriguez, we support Contadora with true commitments.

At another point during the conference, when Rodriguez was asked about the health of President Fidel Castro, he emphasized that his health is excellent; he is at the height of his intellectual abilities.

Rodriguez added that Castro is more committed than ever to the duty and effort aimed at fulfilling the militant socialism that Cuba proclaims. Fidel Castro will be around for a long time, concluded Rodriguez.

HONDURAS 'DELAYING' CONTADORA NEGOTIATION PROCESS

PA310403 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 30 May 86

["Note" read by Norberto Hernandez]

[Text] Once again the meeting of Contadora's technical group and the Central American plenipotentiary delegates was abruptly broken up on Friday. It was obvious that Honduras fell into step with the U.S. efforts to boycott these sessions, which are primarily geared toward reaching agreements on signing the Central American peace document.

Nicaragua presented a disarmament proposal in which it again manifested its willingness to discuss the reduction, regulation, or proscription of armaments and the banning of international maneuvers, military bases, and advisers. However, despite analysts' consensus that the Nicaraguan proposal will continue to play a key role in the discussions because of its specificity, the U.S. Government has failed to comment on it.

During this meeting, as on previous occasions, held in Panama City, the Guatemalan and Costa Rican delegations submitted a joint proposal not altogether unlike that presented by the Salvadoran and Honduran delegates. However, in overall terms the parties failed to maintain a monolithic unity in the course of the deliberations.

During the most recent meeting the Honduran delegation once again proved that it is totally subordinate to the U.S. policy, when it stated that the negotiations had to be suspended because it is senseless to continue the deliberations sponsored by the Contadora Group.

The suspension of these deliberations will allow the Central American negotiating teams to hold consultations with their respective governments before continuing the discussions.

Despite the procrastinating, threatening posture assumed by the U.S. allies, the Sandinist government has not lost its optimism on reaching a negotiated solution. In this context, Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco said that there are proposals that merit examination and review and that his country found various points of similarity, which it will have to consult on with the governments of the corresponding countries.

So far, the fundamental problem of arms and military maneuvers in Central America has not been resolved. What became clear is that some governments -- namely, Honduras -- are delaying the deliberations through schemes that faithfully reflect the aggressive U.S. policy in the region.

CASTRO TOURS NATIONAL FUTURE BUILDERS EXHIBIT

FL311558 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1402 GMT 31 May 86

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, has toured the Fourth National Exhibit of the Builders of the Future in Havana's Cuba Pavilion.

During his tour, Castro, who is also president of the Councils of State and Ministers, received extensive information on the creative activities of the scientific vanguard youth of Cuba, represented at the exhibit by 100 exhibitors. Castro spoke with several exhibitors including Maria de las Mercedes Sanchez, professor of the Carlos Roloff Pre-University Institute. Along with her students, the professor presented a biogas apparatus used to produce gas for laboratory burners. The commander in chief was interested in the possibility of extending that experience to other schools since it saves oil, as was indicated by the author of the exhibit. Castro also spoke with Otto Montejo from Villa Clara, who presented fuses for the protection of high-voltage lines. It is expected that more than 2,500 of these will be produced this year to replace imported fuses. The commander in chief directed several questions to the young exhibitor related to the accessories' best techniques, the origin of their production in the Lazaro Cardenas General Polytechnical Center, and the need to improve the quality of fuses.

Later, Fidel spoke with Josefina Fernandez, chief of the information and documentation center of the technical youth brigades, who reported on the efforts made to keep brigade members informed. The need for equipment, such as photocopy machines, to facilitate the documentation work became evident during the discussion.

During his visit to the exhibit, Fidel spoke with exhibitors from the technical youth brigades of the Public Health Ministry. Among other things in that area, Castro was interested in equipment that made it possible for family members to visit patients in isolation. The equipment was presented by Jose Manuel (Ballesteros) from Camaguey. In the same area, the commander in chief observed a new rapid-diagnostic method to determine the amount of urea in saliva without having to use a clinical laboratory and as an index of renal function. This exhibit was the work of Maria del Pilar Jimenez, specialist from the Nephrology Institute. The exhibitor indicated that by using the easy-testing system, the patient's renal condition can be determined in 30 minutes, which can be used in prescribing medication.

During his tour of the builders of the future exhibit, our highest leader attentively observed a new system for improved use of sugarcane waste pulp for energy purposes, a work which Castro praised. That work is being applied in six agro-industrial complexes in Villa Clara, including the Abel Santa Maria complex, where Jose Manuel Fernandez, the author of the exhibit, is from.

At the Juan Tomas (Roy) exhibit, Fidel met with technical youth brigade members who informed him about Cuban advances in the area known as green medicine. This was demonstrated there with works linked to the cure for vitiligo and other diseases.

At the conclusion of his tour, Fidel held a dialogue with the 100 exhibitors on topics related to Cuba's public health development. During the dialogue, Fidel invited the group of exhibitors to visit in September the biotechnology center that is being constructed in Havana. He stressed the deep impression the exhibit made on him and said it will serve the highest goals of contemporary Cuban society. He called on the brigade members to resolve the most pressing problems of the economy. Fidel pointed out the need for a site to maintain a similar exhibit where thousands of citizens can visit daily and exchange opinions on science and technology. (Arturo Ginarte), a young brigade member from Santiago de Cuba, thanked Castro for the visit and presented him a gift made of crystal as a remembrance of the Fourth National Exhibit of the Builders of the Future.

BARBADOS

BARROW ON TRINIDAD-TOBAGO, CARICOM, NEW CABINET

FL311714 Bridgetown CANA in English 1632 GMT 31 May 86

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, May 31, CANA -- Trinidad and Tobago should keep trading with its partners in the Caribbean Community (Caricom) despite its balance of trade problems, according to newly-elected Barbados Prime Minister Errol Barrow. Speaking in a telephone interview with the TRINIDAD GUARDIAN newspaper, Barrow said one of his first priorities will be to help stimulate Caricom, particularly in the area of trade.

Although Trinidad and Tobago might have a balance of payments problem, trading among its Caricom partners can still be maintained because of its substantial foreign exchange reserves, the paper reports Barrow as saying. He said he had always been on good terms with the region's political leaders and did not anticipate any problems between Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados.

On the subject of the suspended Caricom Multilateral Clearing Facility (CMCF), a regional trade credit facility which collapsed three years ago owing Barbados more than 100 million dollars (1 BDS doll; 50 cents U.S.), Barrow said he would like to see its revival. Even while I was in opposition, I was speaking to countries such as Canada about the CMCF being given a loan or a grant because it would take a long time for debtor Caribbean states to be able to liquidate our debts, said Barrow.

He said he would attend the Caricom heads of government conference scheduled for Guyana July 1-4.

Barrow's Democratic Labour Party (DLP) romped home with a devastating 24-3 seat victory over the former ruling Barbados Labour Party (BLP) in last Wednesday's general elections. We had a better programme, the GUARDIAN quotes Barrow as saying. They (the BLP) were outmaneuvered in their budget presentation. We presented a counter budget which the people found to be more attractive.

The paper said Barrow declined to discuss the possible make-up of his new cabinet, but hinted that it would be reduced in size. Barrow said the Ministry of Information, which he described as a propaganda ministry will be absorbed into another ministry. It was a separate portfolio in the former administration. He also said controversial former BLP minister Dr Don Blackman, who crossed over to and contested the election for the DLP, would be included in the new cabinet if he was interested.

HENRY FORDE TO LEAD OPPOSITION IN PARLIAMENT

FL302230 Bridgetown CANA in English 2204 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, May 30, CANA -- Former Foreign Minister Henry Forde will lead the three-member Barbados Labour Party (DLP) opposition in the island's new Parliament expected to be convened late next month following last Wednesday's general election. Ex-Attorney-General David Simmons, one of the three BLP members to survive the massive swing that swept the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) into power with 24 of the 27 seats, made the announcement today after taking his oath as a parliamentarian at Government House.

Simmons said the decision was taken yesterday at a meeting involving the three BLP MP's and party leader, former Prime Minister Barnard St John, who lost his seat in the election. The other BLP parliamentarian who retained his seat was Owen Arthur, parliamentary secretary in the Ministry of Finance in the last administration.

DOMINICA

BARBADOS ELECTIONS PRAISED, GOOD RELATIONS SEEN

FL301436 Bridgetown CANA in English 1408 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, May 30, CANA -- Dominica's Prime Minister Eugenia Charles says last Wednesday's change of government in Barbados general elections will not affect the traditional good relations between the two Caribbean islands. Reacting to the overwhelming 24-3 victory of Errol Barrow's Democratic Labour Party (DLP), Miss Charles said that contrary to the pre-election poll predictions, Barbadians obviously wanted a change and she saw the result as an example in democracy. The wonderful thing about this is that in our part of the world, we can still make such a complete change in the democratic style without, or with very little violence, Miss Charles told reporters.

She said the Barbadian people had shown clearly that after ten years they had preferred to have the opposition party look after their business. She felt that the bajan [as received] public was intrigued with the DLP's alternative budget for 1986, which was one of the determining factors in the pre-election campaign.

The opposition Dominica Labour Party also added its congratulations to the new Barrow government. It said it was convinced that the newly-elected government will again give to Barbadians the kind of leadership and confidence required to command the national destiny and present to the Barbadian people a new agenda for development based on essential regional self-interest and the mandate of the working people.

OPPOSITION RESUMES PARTICIPATION IN HOUSE

FL261659 Bridgetown CANA in English 1549 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, May 26, CANA -- For the first time in 11 months, opposition members took an active part today in proceedings of the Dominica House of Assembly. Since general elections last July, the opposition Dominica Labour Party had boycotted debate and walked out of the House at every session to protest the stoppage of live broadcasts of the proceedings by the Eugenia Charles administration.

But this morning, in the absence of opposition leader Michael Douglas and two colleagues, DLP members asked questions of government ministers and put forward an amendment to the minutes of the last meeting. They completed the first hour of today's session without walking out, representing the longest period that all opposition members present have remained in the House as a group since the elections.

Acting leader of the opposition Elford Henry joined Prime Minister Charles and other government members to congratulate the parliament's newest representative, Wilmurt Shillingford of the DFP who took the oath of office. The opposition's non-participation in parliamentary proceedings was a major issue in the May 5 by-election campaign which saw Shillingford emerging winner over DLP candidate Roosie Mills. The government has not backed down on the live broadcast issue and continues to prevent a recorded programme featuring extracts from members addresses instead.

DOMINICA LABOR PARTY DISSATISIFIED WITH DOUGLAS

FL272110 Bridgetown CANA in English 1651 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, May 27 CANA -- A near one-year boycott of the Dominica Parliament by the Labour opposition, appears to be crumbling, as pressure mounts on its leader Michael Douglas. The Dominica Labour Party's (DLP) year-old boycott to protest the abandonment of live parliamentary broadcasts, was broken when one of its MP's Eden Durand, joined in a debate last night, endorsing government's proposals to enact laws to ensure improvement in the quality of bananas for export.

Durand acknowledged that constituents were beginning to get a little fed up with the boycott of Parliament by the opposition. (I) thought it would be wise that members stay in and participate because by walking out of the house, I don't think this would bend the prime minster for bringing the proceedings of the house live, Durand declared.

Durand's action last night followed an opposition decision to remain in Parliament throughout the first session yesterday. They took no part in the proceedings, but some parliamentary questions were put to government. DLP leader Michael Douglas is currently out of the country, and efforts to remove him appear to gathering some momentum. Durand acknowledged in an interview with CANA that two factions appear to be developing in the Labour Party, one supporting Douglas and the other against him. He said that his consistuents felt that the leader should be changed, because he had not lived up to their expectations and had failed them. Durand, a former member of the gradually disappearing Dominica Liberation Movement (DLM) declined to state his personal position, but promised to respond positively to his consistuents wishes.

Durand represents the important Castle Bruce constituency in the Dominca Parliament, winning his seat in the general election last July.

The apparent disaffection with Douglas in Castle Bruce comes in the wake of a request by the St Joseph constituency of the party for Douglas removal because of his failure to support the constituency's candidate, Roosie Mills, in a by-election earlier this month.

The St Joseph constituency also complained that Douglas, as party leader, had failed to mobilise sufficient support for former Premier Patrick John's court battle against charges of conspiracy to overthrow the government. Douglas complained of difficulty working alongside Mills and in the final stages of the campaign, pulled out of the electioneering, virtually abandoning the seat to the Freedom Party. In an unprecedented move, the party executive publicy reprimanded its leader and Mills for their conduct. When Douglas returns home in early June, he will almost certainly have to grapple with a tide of discontent against him. The Labour Party is slated to hold its annual convention at the end of August at which the issue of leadership likely to be raised.

GRENADA

FORMER JUNIOR MINISTER TO START NEW PARTY

FL311808 Bridgetown CANA in English 1710 GMT 31 May 86

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, May 31, CANA -- Former junior Grenada Education Minister Kenny Lalsingh, who resigned last week from Prime Minister Herbert Blaize's ruling New National Party (NNP), today predicted that three other government parliamentarians would defect and join him in forming a new political party. In a CANA interview, he said the new party would be launched within the next three weeks. Lalsingh, however, declined to name the imminent defectors. I am quite sure that we should have at least three resignations very soon from the New National Party, he said. His announcement came as Prime Minister Blaize was in St Kitts for a meeting of heads of government of the Organization of East Caribbean State (OECS).

Lalsingh, who said he would lead the new party and would offer Grenada firm leadership, resigned from the NNP after he was given a four-year suspension for publicly criticizing Prime Minister Blaize. The incident occurred after Blaize had called for his resignation as a junior minister in connection with the alleged misappropriation of government cement.

Lalsingh said he would communicate his position to Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon, and may attempt to woo some governmente members in the Senate over to his side. He denied having meetings with parliamentary opposition leader Marcel Peters and ex-Prime Minister Eric Gairy, the leader of the Grenada United Labour party (GULP).

HAITI

DEMONSTRATORS DEMAND COL REGALA'S RESIGNATION

PA302232 Paris AFP in Spanish 2030 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 30 May (AFP) -- Several Hundred demonstrators in Port-au-Prince and other cities today demanded the resignation of Col William Regala, one of the members comprising the National Government Council (CNG) in Haiti, following several relatively calm weeks in the island. Col Regala, who is also interior and national defense minister, recently criticized in public the employees of the state-owned televison, who declared a strike last Monday to protest against what they consider government censorship in the television newscasts. The strike was also declared due to many personnel problems which prevail among the state television's employees. Col Regala, former member of the past regime's presidential guard, lacks the approval of certain parties' members and political commentators.

Only one violent incident was reported during today's demonstration. According to Radio Metropole, an independent radio station in Port-au-Prince, a Haitian solider was wounded when a gun was fired by someone in the crowds. The demonstrators, who closed off the main streets in the capital with rocks and rubble, also demanded Information Minister Aubelin Jolicoeur's resignation because he had publicly ridiculized and criticized the television station's employees.

HOYTE MARKS 20TH INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY

FL261629 Bridgetown CANA in English 1739 GMT 24 May 86

[Excerpt] Georgetown, Guyana, May 24, CANA -- Guyana will press ahead with seeking out and encouraging foreign and local private investment in order to quicken the pace of development here, President Desmond Hoyte has said here. There can be no room for rigidities that are at variance with the realities of the world, he told a rally of several thousand persons yesterday to mark the 20th anniversary of independence.

Hoyte spoke of plans for the development of Guyana's petroleum and hydro-power potential. Major international oil companies are expected to submit tenders for exploration licenses by mid-July and other arrangements for the drilling of shallow wells on-shore, could result in the production of some heavy oil, within a year, he said. Attention would also be paid to small hydro-power facilities allied with specific industrial activities.

Other programmes were being pursued to greatly expand gold and diamond production, rehabilitate the vital bauxite industry and to increase production and productivity in agriculture, especially through project diversification, toward higher value-added products, he said.

Hoyte added that there were plans to diversify the sugar industry, based on sugar cane by-products. Similarly the rice sector, traditionally a producer of bulk and packaged rice and stockfeed inputs, is being geared in association with a major foreign firm, to embark on the production of higher-value products based on rice, he said. He gave no details.

Hoyte said development of an agro-industrial complex would also be one of the government's major pre-occupations over the next three years. We are partners in the development of our country. We must also seek partners in development among our neighbours -- and indeed, in the world at large, Hoyte said. He added: and in all this, without pawning our independence of action and thought, and without deviating from the objective of the society which we wish to build. We must be boldly innovative in our pursuit of economic co-operation.

With independence, Guyanese have cast aside self-pity and self-doubt, Hoyte said. We have learned that we can administer complex systems and manage large industrial and commercial enterprises, establish and operate banks and other financial institutions, conceptualise, design and construct major projects, he said. Hoyte added: As we face the future let us frankly acknowledge our mistakes, learn from them, and go forward with renewed confidence.

Hoyte spoke of achievements by the nation in education, culture, health, communication, food production and the emergence of young and innovative businessmen who are taking advantage of the opportunities that exist for manufacturing activities.

BRIEFS

NEW VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR -- Hugo Alvarez Pifano, the new Venezuelan ambassador to Guyana, presented his credentials today to Guyanese Vice President Mohamed Shahabuddeen. Alvarez expressed satisfaction over the improved relations the two countries now enjoy. Venezuela and Guyana recently signed an agreement whereby Venezuela will sell oil to Guyana and purchase Bauxite from that country for a 1-year period. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 0046 GMT 24 May 86 PA]